Statistical Supplement

Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan

1987-88

Alberta
HOSPITALS AND
MEDICAL CARE

89-05217/

PREFACE

This publication is a statistical supplement to the Annual Report of the Department of Hospitals and Medical Care, covering the fiscal year ended March 31, 1988. It contains supplementary statistical data concerning the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan.

Included in this volume are statistics relating to health care services which were paid by Alberta Health Care, on behalf of registered residents of Alberta, during the 1987-88 fiscal year. Wherever possible, statistics for previous years are shown for comparisons to be made.

Financial Statements for the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan are contained in the Department's Annual Report.

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Highlights

Alberta residents registered under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan are entitled to specified benefits for Basic Health Services at approved rates. Alberta Health Care also provides premium-free Alberta Blue Cross benefits and Extended Health Benefits for residents aged 65 and older and for their spouses and dependants, as well as for widows and widowers aged 55 to 64 years receiving the Alberta Widows' Pension and for their dependants. Coverage for Alberta Blue Cross benefits on an individual (non-group) basis is also available through Alberta Health Care at reduced rates to residents who are unable to obtain Blue Cross coverage through an employer.

The following section contains some highlights concerning the coverage and payments for benefits under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan during the twelve month period from April 1, 1987 to March 31, 1988:

REGISTRATION

Basic Health Services

- During the year, the number of persons entitled to Basic Health Services increased 0.77% to 2,480,943 and the number of registrations increased 1.45% to 1,139,065.
- The number of registrants receiving coverage at reduced premium rates grew by 9.90% to 141,869 as follows:

	Registrations March 31, 1988	Registrations March 31, 1987
Complete Subsidy — (based on taxable income)	119,391	118,785
Partial Subsidy — (based on taxable income)	22,478	10,300
Total Subsidized Registrants	141,869	129,085

- The number of registrants in the 65 years of age and older group, who were exempted from premium payment, increased 3.54% to 166,291 and the number of persons covered increased by 3.29% to 243,801.
- The number of registrants with Alberta Widows' Pension coverage increased by 1.79% to 3,590 and the number of persons covered increased by 0.40% to 4,026. This group received premium-free coverage.
- The number of registrants in the social allowance recipient group, who received premium-free coverage, decreased by 0.61% to 66,355 and the number of persons covered decreased 1.40% to 135,787.
- The number of registrants who did not qualify for the 100% subsidy or social allowance, yet were granted waiver of premium due to current financial difficulties, decreased by 10.65%, from 9,439 registrations in 1986-87 to 8,434 registrations in 1987-88.
- The number of registrations who chose to opt out of Alberta Health Care increased by 5.13% from 78 at March 31, 1987 to 82 at March 31, 1988. This involved 248 persons who were responsible for paying for their own health services.

Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Membership

- The number of registrants with Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group coverage decreased by 1.88% to 246,877 and the number of persons covered decreased by 4.18% to 438,976.
- The number of registrants paying regular premiums decreased by 17.20% to 50,275 and the number of persons covered decreased by 17.82% to 126,968.
- The number of registrants receiving coverage at reduced premium rates decreased by 0.13% to 26,721 and the number of persons covered increased by 0.96% to 64,181.
- The number of registrants who received premium-free coverage under the 65 years of age and older group and Widows' Pension group increased by 3.54% to 166,291 and the number of persons increased by 3.29% to 243,801.

PAYMENTS OF BENEFITS

Basic Health Services

- Total payments for Basic Health Services (provided in and outside of Alberta) increased by 1.54% to $684,397,040 from $674,025,408 in 1986-87. Included were fee-for-service payments as well as payments in respect of medical practitioners on salary, sessional and contract arrangements.
- Fee-for-service payments for Basic Health Services (provided in and outside of Alberta) and their percentage changes over the previous year were:

Medical	$617,626,237	a	3.16%	increase
Oral Surgery	$ 14,567,698	a	16.21%	decrease
Chiropractic	$ 21,382,086	an	8.48%	decrease
Optometry	$ 7,513,906	a	24.65%	decrease
Podiatry	$ 3,031,785	a	2.90%	decrease
Physical Therapy	$ 17,164,644	a	4.99%	decrease
Total	$681,286,356	a	1.59%	increase

- The number of Alberta practitioners who received payments during the year and the percentage changes from the previous year were:

Physicians	3,829	a	4.16% increase
Dental Surgeons	1,075	a	2.87% increase
Chiropractors	332		no change
Optometrists	220	a	2.80% increase
Podiatrists	21		no change
Physical Therapists	423	a	4.19% increase
Total	5,900	a	3.62% increase

- The average fee-for-service payments to Alberta practitioners and the percentage changes over the previous year were:

Physicians	$159,134 a	0.67% decrease
Dental Surgeons	$ 13,532 an	18.54% decrease
Chiropractors	$ 64,040 an	8.43% decrease
Optometrists	$ 33,983 a	26.79% decrease
Podiatrists	$143,976 a	2.77% decrease
Physical Therapists	$ 40,412 an	8.78% decrease

- Increases in the number of Alberta physicians were registered in all of the specialty groups. The number of physicians and the changes over the previous year were:

General Practitioners	2,149 a	3.62% increase of 75
Medical Specialists	881 a	3.04% increase of 26
Surgical Specialists	562 a	2.37% increase of 13
Laboratory Specialists*	237 a	19.70% increase of 39
All Practitioners	3,829 a	4.16% increase of 153

- Average fee-for-service payments to Alberta physicians and the percentage changes over the previous year were:

General Practitioners	$120,474 a	1.87% decrease
Medical Specialists	$120,800 a	1.49% increase
Surgical Specialists	$191,593 a	1.11% increase
Laboratory Specialists*	$575,219 an	11.38% decrease
All Practitioners	$159,134 a	0.67% decrease

- Among medical and surgical specialists in Alberta, the five specialities with the highest average fee-for-service payments were:

  Dermatologists ($334,936), Rhino-Otolaryngologists ($250,579), Ophthalmologists ($248,818), Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgeons ($202,352) and Obstetricians-Gynaecologists ($200,153).

- The number of medical services per Alberta physician decreased to 7,019 from 7,175 in 1986-87, a decrease of 2.17%. The number of discrete patients per practitioner also dropped by 3.38%, from 591 in 1986-87 to 571 in 1987-88.

- Visit services accounted for nearly one half of the total fee-for-service payments to Alberta physicians in 1987-88 (47.37%). Approximately one quarter (26.71%) of the total payment was for pathology, radiology and other diagnostic related services (16.52%, 4.40% and 5.79%, respectively).

- The number of medical services (provided in and outside of Alberta) per 1,000 insured persons rose by 0.97% to 10,953. The percentage changes by type of service ranged from an increase of 33.71% for special visits to a decrease of 9.84% for hospital visits. Increases were registered for special visits (33.71%), radiology services (3.63%), consultations (3.56%), other diagnostic and therapeutic services (2.71%), office visits (2.20%) and pathology services (0.61%). With the exception of surgical assists, obstetrical services and anaesthesia which showed no change from 1986-87, decreases occurred in all other types of service.

- The number of persons who received at least one medical service increased by 0.62% to 2,187,509 in 1987-88 from 2,174,077 in 1986-87.

- Of the 2,187,509 discrete patients who received at least one medical service during 1987-88, 36.04% received not more than $100.00 in services. Another 22.74% received more than $100.00 but not more than $200.00, while 20.86% received over $200.00 but not more than $400.00. The remaining 20.36% received more than $400.00 in services. This group of patients accounted for approximately 60% of the total fee-for-service payment in 1987-88.

- The cost per discrete patient (including services provided in and outside of Alberta) for Basic Health Services and the percentage changes from the previous year were:

Medical	$282.34 a	2.53% increase
Oral Surgery	$350.25 a	17.03% decrease
Chiropractic	$ 83.70 an	8.60% decrease
Optometry	$ 27.72 an	8.45% increase
Podiatric	$ 71.74 a	2.91% decrease
Physical Therapy	$144.19 a	7.30% decrease
Total	$302.53 a	1.61% increase

* The changes are partly explained by a modification which was made in the procedure for the billing of laboratory services by medical practitioners within clinics effective August 1, 1987. Under the new procedure, specific billing numbers were assigned to clinic laboratories. As a result, the count of the number of laboratory/pathologists and laboratory/radiologists increased significantly from 1986-87 to 1987-88 (years ended March 31). The average payment for laboratory specialists was also affected by this change. (For further detail, see Explanatory Comments.)

EXTENDED HEALTH BENEFITS

- The total number of registered persons covered under the Extended Health Benefits (EHB) Program increased by 3.24% to 247,827. Of the covered population, 49.58% received at least one EHB service during the year, up slightly from 48.70% in 1986-87.

- Fee-for-Service payments for Extended Health Benefits (provided in and outside Alberta) increased by 9.75% to $36,254,932 from $33,035,487 in 1986-87. The payments and the percentage changes from the previous year were:

Dentists	$22,905,478 a	12.71% increase
Denturists	$ 7,873,767 a	7.47% increase
Optometrists	$ 2,558,575 a	1.82% decrease
Ophthalmic Dispensers	$ 2,917,112 a	4.91% increase

- The number of discrete patients for each EHB discipline (with the percentage increase from the previous year in parenthesis) were: Dentists – 75,610 (7.59%), Denturists – 21,811 (7.56%), Optometrists – 23,561 (– 2.45%) and Ophthalmic Dispensers – 26,694 (3.02%).

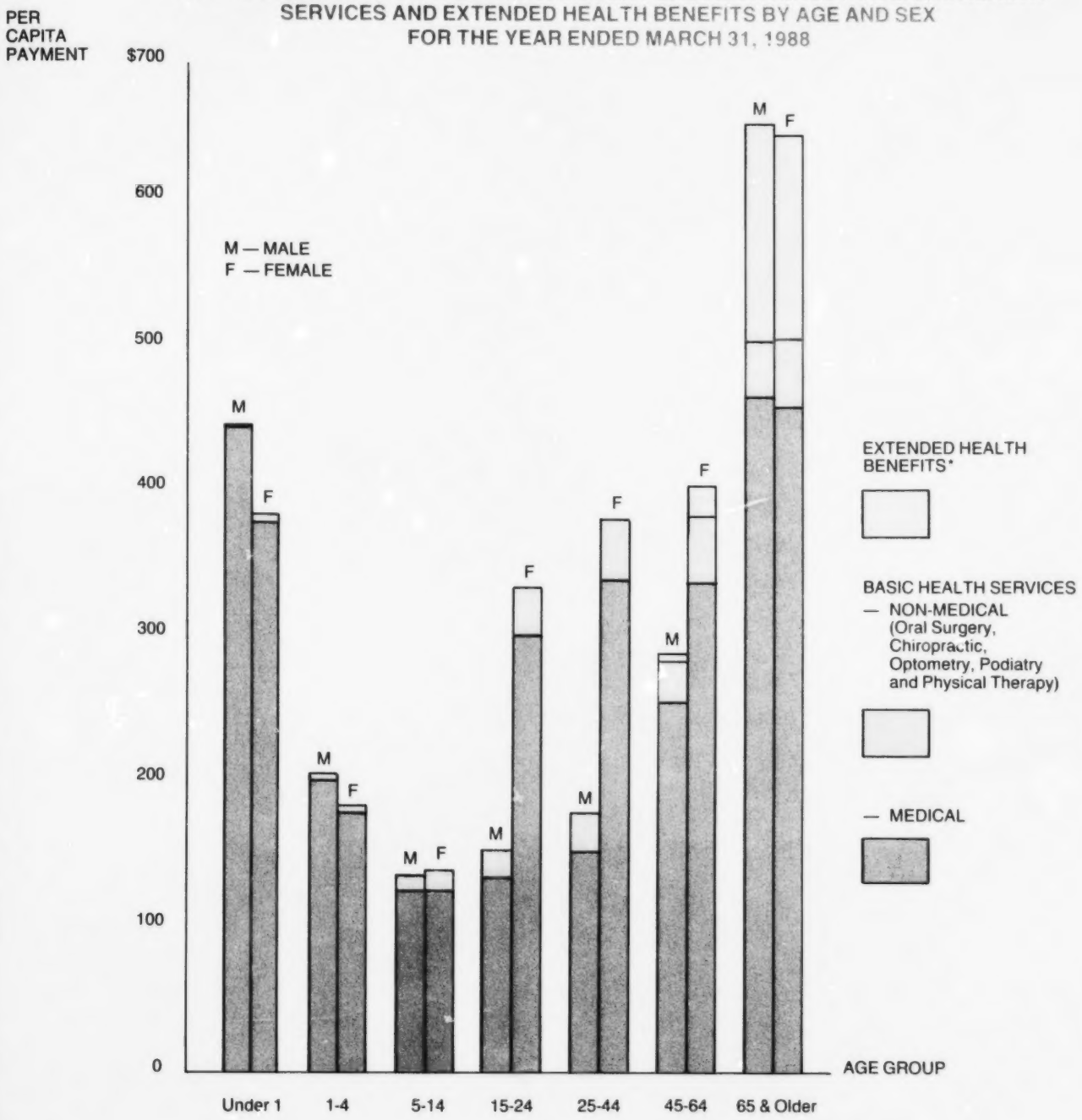
- The cost per discrete patient (including services provided in and outside Alberta) and the percentage changes from the prior year were:

Dentists	$302.94 a	4.76% increase
Denturists	$361.00 a	0.08% decrease
Optometrists	$108.59 a	0.65% increase
Ophthalmic Dispensers	$109.28 a	1.83% increase
Total	$295.09 a	4.43% increase

NOTE: The payment data which appear in these highlights and in the statistical tables which follow are compiled on a date-of-payment basis. The Financial Statements of the Health Care Insurance Fund, which appear in the Departmental Annual Report, show expenditures on a date-of-service basis.

FIGURE 1

DISTRIBUTION OF AVERAGE PAYMENTS PER PERSON COVERED FOR BASIC HEALTH SERVICES AND EXTENDED HEALTH BENEFITS BY AGE AND SEX FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1988



* Covers residents 65 years and older and their spouses and dependants, and widows and widowers receiving the Alberta Widows' Pension and their dependants.

NOTE: Where per capita payment was less than $1.00 it was not indicated.

FIGURE 2

DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS COVERED FOR BENEFITS BY AGE AND SEX AT MARCH 31, 1988

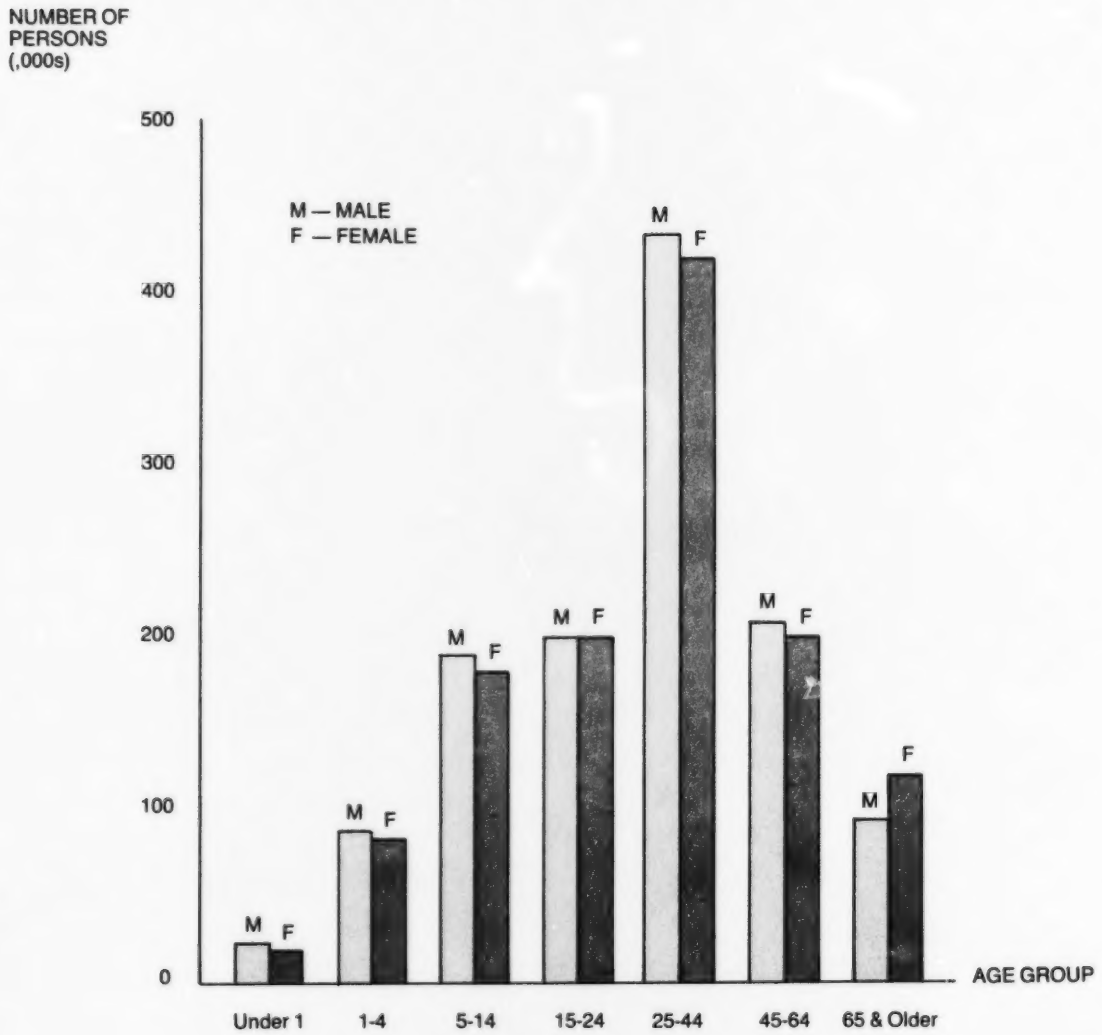


FIGURE 3

NUMBER OF ALBERTA PRACTITIONERS WHO RECEIVED PAYMENT FOR BASIC HEALTH SERVICES
FROM THE ALBERTA HEALTH CARE INSURANCE PLAN
FOR THE YEARS ENDED MARCH 31

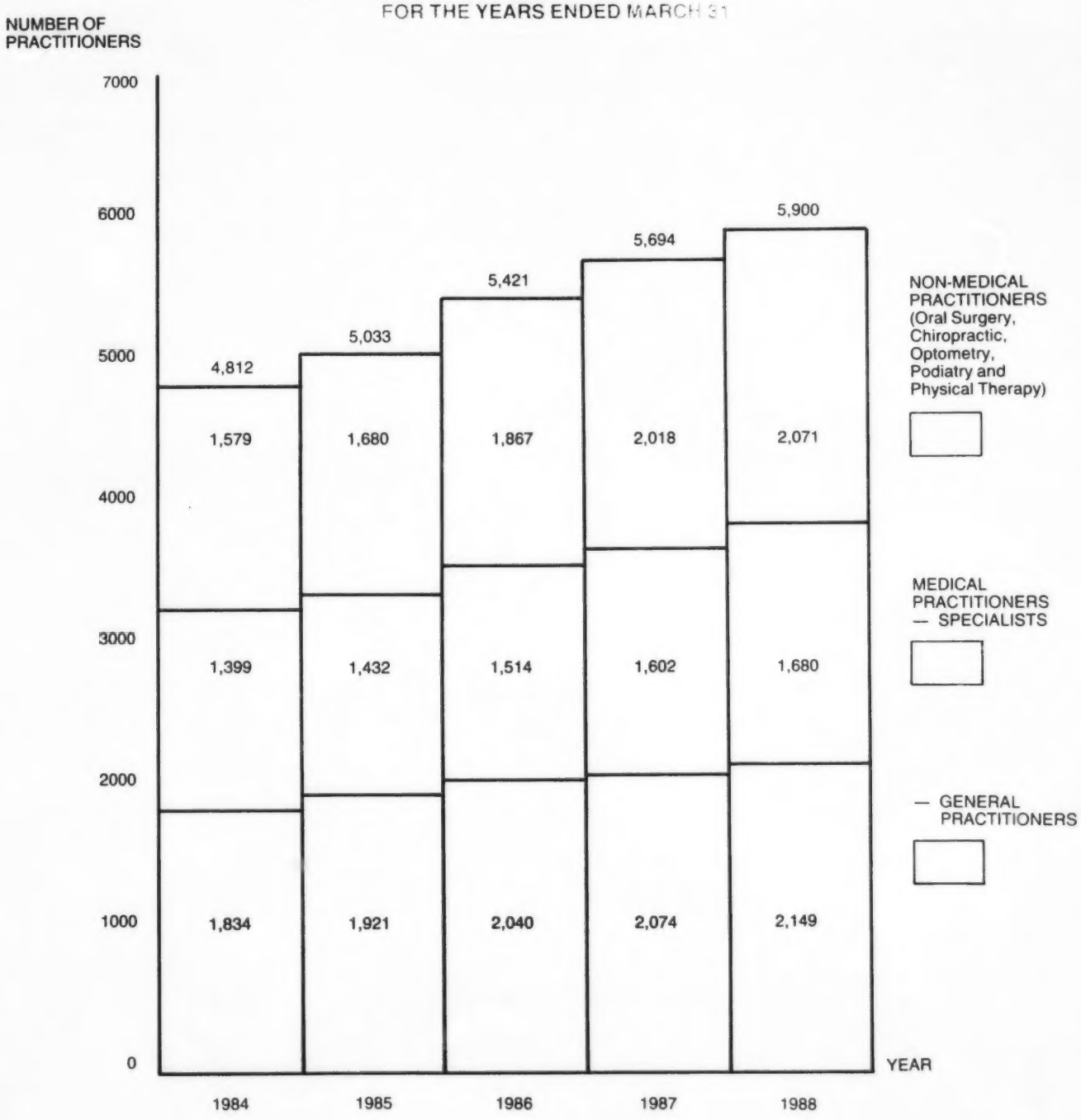
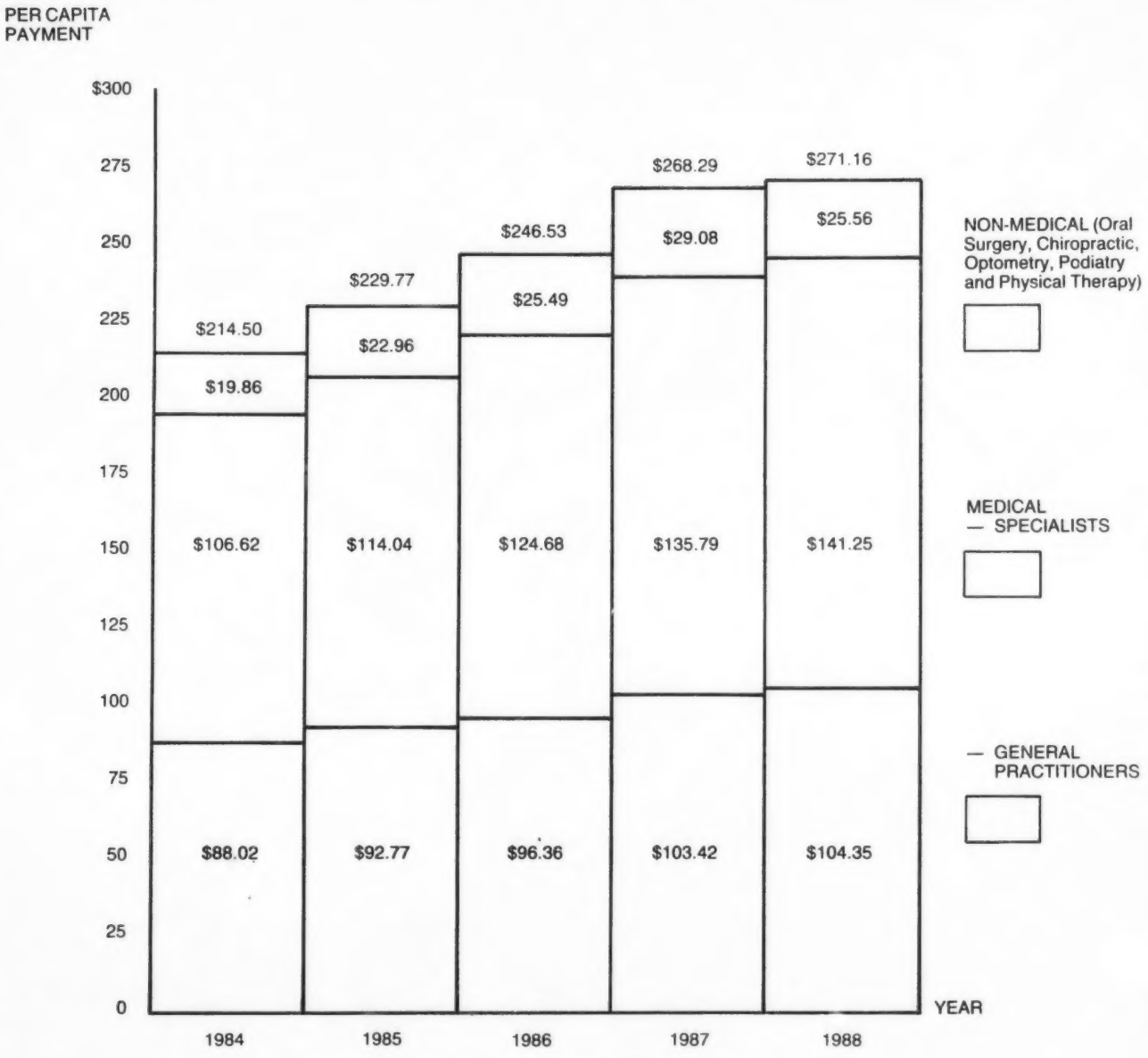


FIGURE 4

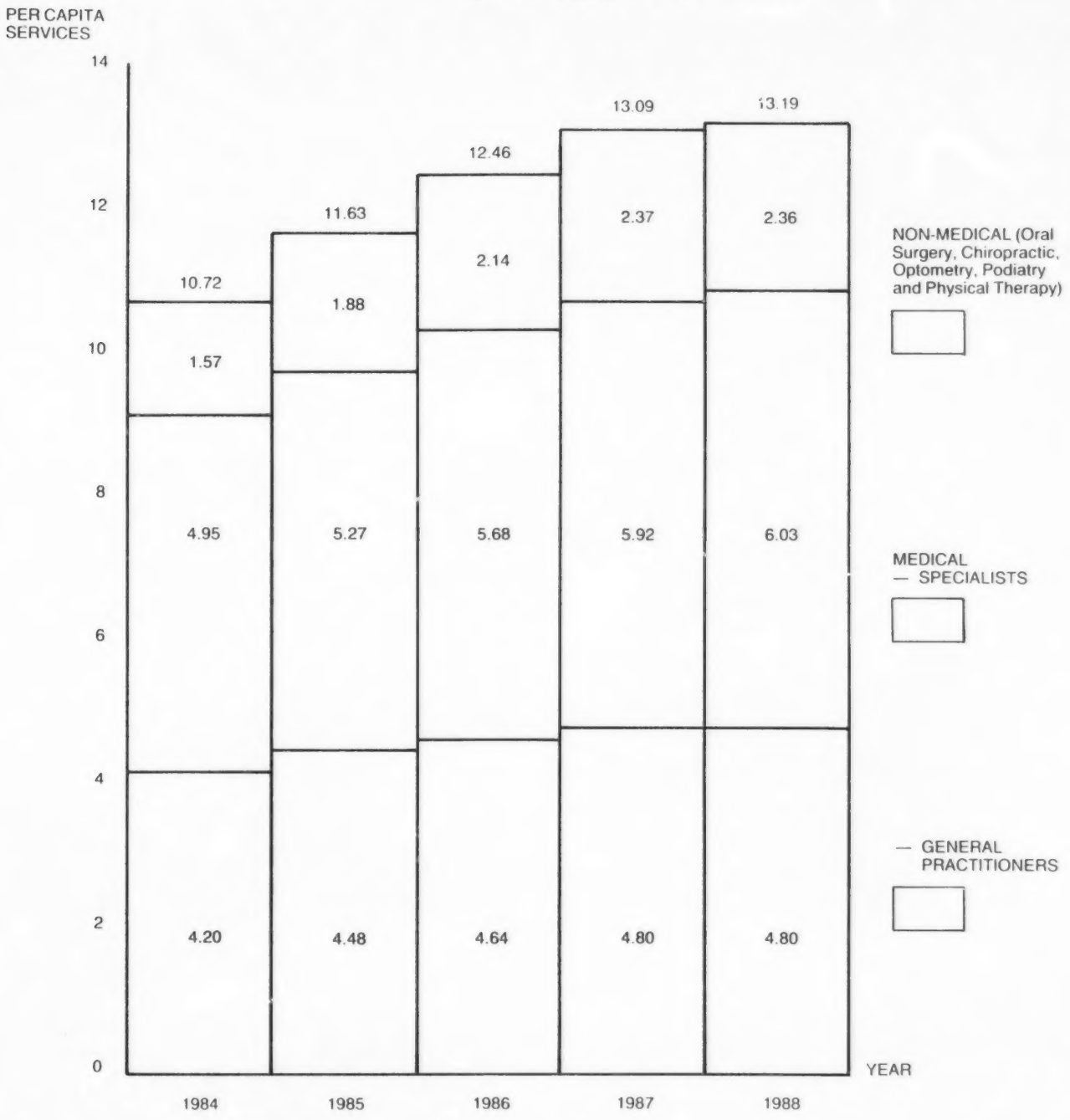
AVERAGE PAYMENT PER PERSON COVERED FOR BASIC HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE YEARS ENDED MARCH 31



NOTE: Only fee-for-service payments to Alberta practitioners are included.

FIGURE 5

AVERAGE NUMBER OF SERVICES PER PERSON FOR BASIC HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE YEARS ENDED MARCH 31



NOTE: Only services provided by Alberta practitioners on a fee-for-service basis are included.

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EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

The following are explanatory remarks relating to statistical tables tabulated from the registration and claims-payment files of the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan.

(A) Registration

1. The coverage data reported are the actual registrations on the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan files. These exceed the Statistics Canada provincial population estimates. The differences are accounted for by the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan files being kept current by the continual processing of additions and deletions of persons, by persons being temporarily absent from the province for educational purposes and by registrants who have left the province but retain coverage for a period of three months.
2. The coverage figures do not include members of the Armed Forces and R.C.M.P., and inmates of Federal Penitentiaries.
3. The Alberta Widows' Pension Program was introduced on May 1, 1983 to assist widows and widowers of limited income and aged 55 and older but under age 65, by providing financial, housing and health care benefits similar to those received by Alberta senior citizens. Under the health care benefits portion of the Program, eligible persons and their dependants receive premium-free coverage under the Basic Health Services Program, Extended Health Benefits Program and Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Membership.
4. Exemption from payment of premium for Basic Health Services and Alberta Blue Cross was granted to registrants aged 65 and older and to their spouses and dependants; and to widows and widowers receiving the Alberta Widows' Pension and to their dependants.
5. The premium payment levels indicated are those charged to registrants by the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan.

(B) Claims-Payment

1. Payments to practitioners represent gross fee-for-service payments made by the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan and represent neither the total income nor the net income of a practitioner.
2. The payment data are tabulated and reported on a date-of-payment basis.
3. Payments include only fee-for-service payments to practitioners for services which were provided to Alberta residents.
4. Payments for Basic Health Services provided to injured workers coming under the Workers' Compensation Act, which are recoverable from the Workers' Compensation Board, are not included in the payment data.
5. The payment data exclude certain adjustments and off-line payments.
6. Under the Extended Health Benefits Program, the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan paid a major portion of the cost of eyeglasses, dentures and dental care for registrants 65 years of age and older and for their spouses and their dependants; and for widows and widowers receiving the Alberta Widows' Pension and for their dependants.
7. The number of discrete patients is defined as the number of different registered persons receiving at least one service during the period reported.
8. With the exception of 1) practitioners who provide a locum tenens for another practitioner, and 2) claims for laboratory and radiology services, each practitioner must claim for the services which he/she provides.
9. Practitioners may assign the payments to which they are entitled to a clinic of which they are members, and this arrangement is between the practitioner and the clinic. These assignments are recorded as payments to the practitioner who provided the services.
10. Average payment is the arithmetic mean payment. Median payment is the middle payment when all payments are arranged according to size.
11. Osteopathic services were classified as medical services effective October 10, 1973. They were included in medical services for the entire year ended June 30, 1974 and for all subsequent years.
12. The specialty distribution of medical practitioners is based on their specialty as at the end of the fiscal year.
13. A new medical specialty of emergency medicine was established for purposes of statistical reporting, beginning with the 1986-87 fiscal year. This new specialty consists of physicians who have a specialty certification in emergency medicine.
14. A new surgical specialty of cardiovascular and thoracic surgery was created for purposes of statistical reporting, beginning with the 1987-88 fiscal year. This new specialty consists of physicians who have a specialty certification in either cardiovascular surgery or thoracic surgery.

15. Five physicians who were classified as general surgeons in previous years were included in the specialty of cardiovascular and thoracic surgery. These physicians have specialty certification in general surgery, as well as in either cardiovascular or thoracic surgery. The data for general surgery in prior years have been revised to ensure comparability in the data.

16. To make statistical data more manageable, a grouping of medical practitioners is necessary for certain cross-tabulations. The grouping consists of (i) General Practitioners, (ii) Medical Specialists, (iii) Surgical Specialists and (iv) Laboratory Specialists. The Medical Specialists group is composed of anaesthetists, dermatologists, internists, neurologists, paediatricians, psychiatrists, physiatrists and emergency medicine physicians. The Surgical Specialists group is made up of general surgeons, urologists, neurological surgeons, obstetricians-gynaecologists, ophthalmologists, rhino-otolaryngologists, orthopaedic surgeons, plastic surgeons, thoracic surgeons and cardiovascular surgeons. The Laboratory Specialists group consists of pathologists and pathology laboratories, radiologists and radiology laboratories and other laboratories such as E.E.G. (electroencephalogram) laboratories.

17. The Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan changed its procedure for the billing of laboratory services by medical practitioners within clinics. Effective August 1, 1987, all existing pathology and radiology laboratories within clinics were assigned specific billing numbers if the laboratory facility was accredited by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta. If a clinic had both accredited pathology and radiology laboratories, a separate billing number was assigned to each laboratory facility. All new clinic laboratories were registered with specific billing numbers from this date onwards.

    Laboratory services provided on or after August 1, 1987 by these clinic laboratories were submitted and paid under the specific pathology and radiology billing numbers for the clinic. Prior to August 1, 1987, the laboratory services provided by these clinic laboratories were submitted and paid under the billing number of the practitioner in the clinic who ordered the service.

    Due to this change in billing procedure, the data for the specialties of laboratory/pathologists and laboratory/radiologists for 1987-88 are not comparable to the data for previous years. Some caution, therefore, is recommended in the interpretation of these figures.

18. Some modifications in benefits available under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan were made effective August 1, 1987. The changes were as follows:
    - Benefits payable to chiropractors, physical therapists and podiatrists were reduced by 12.5%.
    - Benefits for services provided by dentists, which are covered under Alberta Health Care for non-surgical treatment of Temporo-Mandibular Joint (stress of the jaw joint), were reduced by 50%.
    - Eye examinations for the purpose of prescribing eye glasses or contact lenses, or to determine if a change to prescription is required, continued to be included as an insured service for children 18 years of age and younger, for senior citizens and their dependants, and for widows and widowers receiving the Alberta Widows' Pension and their dependants. Fees paid by Alberta Health Care on behalf of seniors, widows and widowers, and children were set equal for both optometrists and ophthalmologists. For all other patients, eye examinations were no longer covered by Alberta Health Care.
    - Some selected physician services which are not medically required were removed from the Fee Schedule. The majority of these relate to contraception and sterilization services, when not medically required.
    - Senior citizens were no longer required to have a drivers' license medical at 70 years of age. Instead, the first medical is required at age 75, with the second at age 80 and every two years after that. These medicals continued to be covered by Alberta Health Care.
    - The family coverage limits of $400.00 per benefit year for chiropractic, podiatric and physical therapy benefits were removed and only individual limits of $200.00 per year were applied.

19. Two modifications were made to the coverage under the Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Plan effective August 1, 1987:
    - Non premium-paying subscribers (seniors, widows and widowers receiving the Alberta Widows' Pension, and their dependants) were no longer eligible to receive coverage for preferred accommodations in active treatment hospitals, unless it was medically required.
    - The deductible for paying subscribers for non-hospital accommodation benefits was increased to $50.00 from $15.00.

NOTE

The statistics in the following tables cannot be used as an accurate measure of a full-time practitioner's income as:

(1) practitioners receive income from other sources (e.g. Workers' Compensation Board, extra-billing, third party medicals, and for other services not covered by Alberta Health Care);

(2) both full-time and part-time practitioners are included in the statistics;

(3) the figures quoted are gross payments from which practitioners pay their office expenses.

MEDICAL BENEFITS
SELECTED INDICATORS
For the years ended March 31

TABLE 1

	1986	1987	1988	Percentage Change 1987/1986	Percentage Change 1988/1987
Number of Registered Persons	2,443,244	2,462,017	2,480,943	0.77%	0.77%
Number of Medical Practitioners					
All Practitioners	3,554	3,676	3,829	3.43%	4.16%
General Practitioners	2,040	2,074	2,149	1.67%	3.62%
Medical Specialists	792	855	881	7.95%	3.04%
Surgical Specialists	543	549	562	1.10%	2.37%
Laboratory Specialists	179	198	237+	10.61%	19.70%+
Total Medical Payments	$540,036,184	$588,938,394	$609,324,574	9.06%	3.46%
Total Number of Medical Services	25,221,311	26,375,647	26,874,732	4.58%	1.89%
Number of Medical Services Per Practitioner	7,097	7,175	7,019	1.10%	−2.17%
Total Medical Payment Per 1,000 Persons	$ 221,032	$ 239,210	$ 245,602	8.22%	2.67%
Total Number of Services Per 1,000 Persons	10,323	10,713	10,832	3.78%	1.11%
Average Payments					
All Practitioners	$ 151,952	$ 160,212	$ 159,134	5.44%	−0.67%
General Practitioners	115,403	122,768	120,474	6.38%	−1.87%
Medical Specialists	116,202	119,027	120,800	2.43%	1.49%
Surgical Specialists	184,081	189,498	191,593	2.94%	1.11%
Laboratory Specialists	629,195	649,063	575,219+	3.16%	−11.38%+
Median Payments					
All Practitioners	$ 119,610	$ 125,592	$ 123,096	5.00%	−1.99%
General Practitioners	115,515	123,591	122,238	6.99%	−1.09%
Medical Specialists	102,949	111,647	110,870	8.45%	−0.70%
Surgical Specialists	174,912	189,473	187,392	8.32%	−1.10%
Laboratory Specialists	69,394	65,795	42,495+	−5.19%	−35.41%+
Discrete Patients (Medical)	2,133,476	2,174,077	2,187,509	1.90%	0.62%
Discrete Patients Per Practitioner	600	591	571	−1.50%	−3.38%

+ Not comparable to data for previous years (see note 17 in "Claims-Payment" section of "Explanatory Comments").

NOTES: A. Only fee-for-service items paid to practitioners in Alberta are included.

B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

MEDICAL SERVICES PER 1,000 INSURED PERSONS
ACCORDING TO TYPE OF SERVICE
For the years ended March 31, 1978 to 1988

TABLE 2

Type of Service	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	Percentage Change (1988/1987)	Annual Average Percentage Change (1978-1988)
Consultations	195	207	210	218	226	254	284	311	324	337	349	3.56%	5.99%
Office Visits	3,022	3,110	3,164	3,269	3,244	3,561	3,795	4,066	4,260	4,496	4,595	2.20	4 28
Hospital Visits	786	775	767	706	676	742	804	837	856	833	751	-9.84	-0.45
Special Visits	175	157	149	149	143	110	88	88	107	89	119	33.71	-3.78
Major Surgery	66	66	64	63	61	67	73	74	88	85	84	-1.18	2.44
Minor Surgery	99	98	96	101	101	108	115	114	126	118	108	-8.47	0.87
Surgical Assists	30	29	27	29	27	28	29	31	32	32	32	—	0.65
Obstetrical Services	21	21	22	22	22	23	24	22	25	23	23	—	0.91
Anaesthesia	132	133	143	144	142	153	167	170	189	185	185	—	3.43
Radiology Services	318	321	296	287	271	290	290	310	317	331	343	3.63	0.76
Pathology Services	1,739	1,904	2,141	2,243	2,328	2,637	2,820	3,039	3,278	3,435	3,456	0.61	7.11
Other Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services	592	613	591	608	616	659	759	807	861	884	908	2.71	4.37
TOTAL	7,175	7,434	7,670	7,839	7,857	8,632	9,248	9,869	10,463	10,848	10,953	0.97	4.32

NOTES: A. Included are medical services provided in and outside Alberta on a fee-for-service basis.

B. Special visits include routine home visits, emergency home visits and other home visits.

C. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

BASIC HEALTH SERVICES

TABLE 3

PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN THE SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

Discipline / Effective Date	Medical	Oral Surgery	Chiropractic	Optometry	Podiatry	Physical Therapy·
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
July 1, 1970	6.95	Nil	18.99	25.00	25.63	N.A.
November 1, 1972	0.62	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	N.A.
October 1, 1973	4.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	N.A.
October 1, 1974	4.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	N.A.
March 1, 1975	7.20	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	N.A.
January 1, 1976	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	N.A.
January 1, 1977	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	N.A.
January 1, 1978	6.47	6.47	6.47	6.47	6.47	N.A.
January 1, 1979	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	N.A.
January 1, 1980	15.50	10.50	9.00*	8.50	9.00	N.A.
January 1, 1981	15.40**	11.60	11.00	11.00	11.00	N.A.
January 1, 1982	16.47	9.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	14.18··
July 1, 1982	4.12***	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
January 1, 1983	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	6.00···
April 1, 1986	4.65	4.65	4.65	4.65	4.65	4.65
October 1, 1986'	1.53	0.33	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
August 1, 1987"	Nil	−45.16	−12.50	27.77	−12.50	−12.50

N.A.: Not Applicable.

NOTES:

* Effective March 1, 1980.

** Effective March 1, 1981, annualized to 12.80%.

*** Added benefits to deal with substantive issues, including payments for mandatory consultations, re-designation of the workday start, differentials for evenings and nights, and differentials for week-ends and holidays.

· Fee-for-service physical therapy became an insured benefit of the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan on July 1, 1981.

·· Effective February 1, 1982, annualized to 13.00%.

··· Effective March 1, 1983, annualized to 5.00%.

' An agreement was reached between the Government of Alberta and the Alberta Medical Association to end extra-billing effective October 1, 1986 for all medically required services which are insured under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan. Subsequently, the Alberta Dental Association also agreed to end extra-billing for any oral surgical procedures insured by Alberta Health Care. The changes to the medical and oral surgery schedules effective October 1, 1986 are related to the elimination of extra-billing.

" The following changes in benefit rates were made effective August 1, 1987: 1) The benefits payable to chiropractors, podiatrists and physical therapists were reduced by 12.5%. 2) Benefits for services provided by dentists relating to the non-surgical treatment of Temporo-Mandibular Joint (stress on the jaw) were reduced by 50%. This translated into an overall reduction of 45.16% for all oral surgery benefits. 3) The benefit rate paid by Alberta Health Care for eye examinations performed by optometrists was increased by 27.77%, from $24.85 to $31.75.

PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN THE SCHEDULE OF MEDICAL BENEFITS BY SPECIALTY (1)

TABLE 4

Specialty \ Effective Date	(2) July 1 1970	(3) Nov. 1 1972	(3) Oct. 1 1973	(4) Oct. 1 1974	Mar. 1 1975	Jan. 1 1976	Jan. 1 1977	Jan. 1 1978	(6) Jan. 1 1979	Jan. 1 1980	Mar. 1 1981	Jan. 1 1982	(7) July 1 1982	Jan. 1 1983	Apr. 1 1986	(8) Oct. 1 1986
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
General Practitioners	6.95	Nil	7.12	4.00	7.75	8.55	8.32	7.50	7.47	17.15	16.42	17.40	N/A	4.43	4.83	1.33
Anaesthetists	6.95	16.46	Nil	4.00	9.03	4.81	6.00	3.60	7.99	20.99	12.35	17.03	N/A	1.63	7.38	0.14
Dermatologists	6.95	−5.04	Nil	4.00	3.56	6.03	4.74	5.25	5.74	11.04	14.00	10.18	N/A	4.68	2.83	−10.63
General Surgeons	6.95	Nil	4.96	4.00	2.40	7.92	7.27	7.13	6.90	16.74	15.48	15.76	N/A	4.31	5.32	−0.17
Urologists	6.95	Nil	Nil	4.00	2.47	7.65	5.41	5.03	5.31	16.50	16.24	15.46	N/A	4.29	5.41	−0.01
Internists	6.95	1.45	6.68	4.00	10.30	7.35	6.03	6.13	6.40	15.72	15.08	15.39	N/A	4.77	4.08	1.01
Neurologists	6.95	0.76	Nil	4.00	8.81	7.95	6.84	5.51	6.68	14.37	15.27	21.97	N/A	8.33	4.03	Nil
Neurological-Surgeons	6.95	Nil	8.77	4.00	1.70	6.18	4.84	6.03	7.37	15.53	15.11	18.80	N/A	14.62	5.40	Nil
Obstetricians-Gynaecologists	6.95	−3.29	Nil	4.00	2.63	7.30	5.74	5.82	4.45	14.94	14.01	14.68	N/A	4.77	5.81	15.58
Ophthalmologists	6.95	Nil	Nil	4.00	2.69	8.03	5.42	5.60	6.46	15.21	13.86	15.01	N/A	4.28	3.75	2.20
Rhino-Otolaryngologists	6.95	Nil	Nil	4.00	2.35	6.94	4.74	4.12	5.59	13.56	13.23	12.97	N/A	3.82	3.70	−2.78
Orthopaedic Surgeons	6.95	Nil	Nil	4.00	2.38	7.18	3.77	4.14	5.77	14.51	13.65	14.72	N/A	4.19	6.17	0.04
Paediatricians	6.95	2.19	4.43	4.00	10.63	8.85	6.92	7.36	6.13	15.09	14.88	18.80	N/A	5.88	4.17	1.50
Psychiatrists	6.95	Nil	Nil	4.00	18.76	7.17	8.20	7.14	7.98	20.29	18.29	18.69	N/A	4.42	10.09	Nil
Plastic Surgeons	6.95	Nil	Nil	4.00	2.29	5.07	3.41	3.60	4.26	9.84	13.69	13.31	N/A	4.05	4.42	−19.97
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	6.95	4.96	Nil	4.00	33.93	12.83	7.77	7.29	11.27	39.83	26.09	16.36	N/A	2.81	2.91	Nil
Thoracic Surgeons	6.95	Nil	Nil	4.00	1.73	6.45	3.39	3.40	3.85	8.64	10.12	8.84	N/A	3.35	5.61	1.91
Allergists	6.95	−5.01	Nil	4.00	(5)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Laboratory/Pathologists	6.95	−10.65	Nil	4.00	7.27	11.82	6.30	5.45	8.13	9.53	12.67	15.18	N/A	10.04	3.24	0.02
Laboratory/Radiologists	6.95	−4.95	Nil	4.00	7.45	10.52	4.74	4.85	6.35	11.07	18.79	17.26	N/A	5.06	2.81	Nil
All Physicians	6.95	0.62	4.00	4.00	7.20	9.00	7.00	6.47	7.00	15.50	15.40	16.47	4.12	5.00	4.65	1.53

N/A: Not available.

(1) All percentage changes are calculated by using a base-weight index method.

(2) When the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan was established effective July 1, 1969, the Schedule of Medical Benefits was set at 93.5% of the Alberta Medical Association's 1969 Fee Schedule. The Schedule of Medical Benefits was increased by 6.95% effective July 1, 1970 to cover 100% of the Profession's 1969 Fee Schedule.

(3) Spill-over effects are not included.

(4) Spill-over effects are included, beginning October 1, 1974.

(5) Allergists are included in their certified specialties, beginning March 1, 1975.

(6) In addition to the overall 7.00% increase, amendments granted to assessment rules pertaining to haemoglobin and urinalysis tests supplied in conjunction with visits resulted in an undetermined economic impact.

(7) Represents the calculated impact of additional benefits, including payments for mandatory consultations, redesignation of the work day start, differentials for evening and night services and differentials for weekend and holiday services. A breakdown of this increase by specialty is not available.

(8) Within the agreement to end extra-billing by physicians effective October 1, 1986, the Extraordinary Medical Services Assessment Fund (EMSAF) was established to compensate a participating physician for insured services rendered in the care of the sick where such services constitute extraordinary services having regard to the circumstances of the case. The economic impact of the EMSAF is included in the overall percentage increase for all physicians, but not in the percentage changes at the specialty level.

REGISTRATIONS AND PERSONS COVERED

TABLE 5

at March 31

	Registrations			Percentage Change		Persons			Percentage Change	
	1986	1987	1988	1987/1986	1988/1987	1986	1987	1988	1987/1986	1988/1987
Individual	387,384	396,422	401,503	2.33%	1.28%	811,364	819,325	817,904	0.98%	−0.17%
Group	504,076	495,424	501,326	−1.72%	1.19%	1,277,354	1,264,927	1,279,425	−0.97%	1.15%
Registrant or Spouse Age 65 or Older	154,981	160,612	166,291	3.63%	3.54%	227,940	236,040	243,801	3.55%	3.29%
Widows' Pension	3,616	3,527	3,590	−2.46%	1.79%	4,156	4,010	4,026	−3.51%	0.40%
Social Allowance Recipients	57,424	66,759	66,355	16.26%	−0.61%	122,430	137,715	135,787	12.48%	−1.40%
TOTAL	1,107,481	1,122,744	1,139,065	1.38%	1.45%	2,443,244	2,462,017	2,480,943	0.77%	0.77%

NOTE: See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

REGISTRATIONS AND PERSONS COVERED BY METHOD OF PREMIUM COLLECTION AND SUBSIDY LEVEL

TABLE 6

at March 31, 1988

	One Person		Two Persons		Three or More Persons		Total	
	Registrations	Persons	Registrations	Persons	Registrations	Persons	Registrations	Persons
Non Subsidized								
Individual	154,450	154,450	43,964	87,928	85,790	343,617	284,204	585,995
Group	151,930	151,930	105,393	210,786	219,433	868,654	476,756	1,231,370
TOTAL	306,380	306,380	149,357	298,714	305,223	1,212,271	760,960	1,817,365
Subsidized								
One-Third Reduced								
Individual	4,056	4,056	1,463	2,926	2,714	11,019	8,233	18,001
Group	760	760	389	778	577	2,416	1,726	3,954
Two-Thirds Reduced								
Individual	5,087	5,087	2,029	4,058	3,367	13,608	10,483	22,753
Group	865	865	473	946	698	2,889	2,036	4,700
Full Reduction								
Individual	57,124	57,124	16,824	33,648	24,635	100,383	98,583	191,155
Group	12,790	12,790	3,191	6,382	4,827	20,229	20,808	39,401
TOTAL	80,682	80,682	24,369	48,738	36,818	150,544	141,869	279,964
Registrant or Spouse Age 65 or Older	93,388	93,388	69,386	138,772	3,517	11,641	166,291	243,801
Widows' Pension	3,245	3,245	276	552	69	229	3,590	4,026
Social Allowance Recipients	34,754	34,754	11,743	23,486	19,858	77,547	66,355	135,787
TOTALS:								
Individual	220,717	220,717	64,280	128,560	116,506	468,627	401,503	817,904
Group	166,345	166,345	109,446	218,892	225,535	894,188	501,326	1,279,425
Registrant or Spouse Age 65 or Older	93,388	93,388	69,386	138,772	3,517	11,641	166,291	243,801
Widows' Pension	3,245	3,245	276	552	69	229	3,590	4,026
Social Allowance Recipients	34,754	34,754	11,743	23,486	19,858	77,547	66,355	135,787
TOTAL	518,449	518,449	255,131	510,262	365,485	1,452,232	1,139,065	2,480,943

NOTE: See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

BASIC HEALTH SERVICES

TABLE 7

Persons Covered by Age and Sex
at March 31

Age	Male 1986	Male 1987	Male 1988	Percentage Change 1987/1986	Percentage Change 1988/1987	Female 1986	Female 1987	Female 1988	Percentage Change 1987/1986	Percentage Change 1988/1987	Total 1986	Total 1987	Total 1988	Percentage Change 1987/1986	Percentage Change 1988/1987
Under 1	22,437	22,396	21,940	−0.18%	−2.04%	21,274	21,348	20,740	0.35%	−2.85%	43,711	43,744	42,680	0.08%	−2.43%
1 - 4	88,480	88,365	88,117	−0.13%	−0.28%	84,213	84,090	83,601	−0.15%	−0.58%	172,693	172,455	171,718	−0.14%	−0.43%
5 - 14	190,220	190,926	193,255	0.37%	1.22%	180,080	181,191	183,586	0.62%	1.32%	370,300	372,117	376,841	0.49%	1.27%
15 - 24	212,508	207,224	202,798	−2.49%	−2.14%	213,461	207,076	200,098	−2.99%	−3.37%	425,969	414,300	402,896	−2.74%	−2.75%
25 - 44	427,520	434,207	439,659	1.56%	1.26%	410,308	418,159	424,939	1.91%	1.62%	837,828	852,366	864,598	1.74%	1.44%
45 - 64	200,482	204,023	207,803	1.77%	1.85%	195,115	197,867	201,500	1.41%	1.84%	395,597	401,890	409,303	1.59%	1.84%
65 & Older	87,102	90,295	93,271	3.67%	3.30%	110,044	114,850	119,636	4.37%	4.17%	197,146	205,145	212,907	4.06%	3.78%
TOTAL	1,228,749	1,237,436	1,246,843	0.71%	0.76%	1,214,495	1,224,581	1,234,100	0.83%	0.78%	2,443,244	2,462,017	2,480,943	0.77%	0.77%

NOTE: See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

ALBERTA BLUE CROSS NON-GROUP MEMBERSHIP

TABLE 8

Registrations and Persons Covered by Level of Premium Payment
at March 31

		Regular Premium Rates 1986	1987	1988	Reduced Premium Rates 1986	1987	1988	Registrant or Spouse Age 65 or Older 1986	1987	1988	Widows' Pension 1986	1987	1988	Total 1986	1987	1988
One Person	Registrations	19,605	19,683	16,260	10,587	11,024	10,399	86,973	90,028	93,388	3,227	3,170	3,245	120,392	123,905	123,292
	Persons	19,605	19,683	16,260	10,587	11,024	10,399	86,973	90,028	93,388	3,227	3,170	3,245	120,392	123,905	123,292
Two Persons	Registrations	14,175	14,989	13,036	5,807	6,141	6,699	64,188	66,824	69,334	362	331	318	84,532	88,285	89,387
	Persons	28,350	29,978	26,072	11,614	12,282	13,398	128,376	133,648	138,668	724	662	636	169,064	176,570	178,774
Three or More Persons	Registrations	26,021	26,047	20,979	9,225	9,592	9,623	3,820	3,760	3,569	27	26	27	39,093	39,425	34,198
	Persons	105,007	104,839	84,636	38,658	40,263	40,384	12,591	12,364	11,745	205	178	145	156,461	157,644	136,910
TOTAL	Registrations	59,801	60,719	50,275	25,619	26,757	26,721	154,981	160,612	166,291	3,616	3,527	3,590	244,017	251,615	246,877
	Persons	152,962	154,500	126,968	60,859	63,569	64,181	227,940	236,040	243,801	4,156	4,010	4,026	445,917	458,119	438,976

NOTES: A. Those who were eligible for Basic Health Services at the 100 percent subsidy level were also eligible for Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group coverage at reduced premium rates, but were not exempted from payment of the premium.

B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

ALBERTA BLUE CROSS NON-GROUP MEMBERSHIP

TABLE 9

Persons Covered by Age and Sex
at March 31

Age	Male			Female			Total		
	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988
Under 1	1,828	1,865	1,460	1,745	1,779	1,443	3,573	3,644	2,903
1 - 4	7,438	7,601	6,290	6,999	7,057	5,974	14,437	14,658	12,264
5 - 14	18,167	18,463	16,110	16,901	17,085	14,945	35,068	35,548	31,055
15 - 24	20,324	20,096	17,138	20,346	20,134	16,705	40,670	40,230	33,843
25 - 44	29,641	30,128	25,533	32,559	33,556	28,811	62,200	63,684	54,344
45 - 64	36,039	37,367	35,521	57,417	58,596	56,983	93,456	95,963	92,504
65 & Older*	86,670	89,772	92,685	109,843	114,620	119,378	196,513	204,392	212,063
TOTAL	200,107	205,292	194,737	245,810	252,827	244,239	445,917	458,119	438,976

* The number of persons in this age group differs from the number of persons shown in Table 6 as only those registrations where the age of the person 65 years or older has been verified are provided with premium exempt Alberta Blue Cross coverage.

DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS FOR BASIC HEALTH SERVICES

TABLE 10

For the years ended March 31

	Total			Practitioners			Registrants		
	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988
Medical*	$553,184,867	$602,115,231	$620,736,921	$550,753,802	$600,231,966	$618,775,119	$2,431,065	$1,883,265	$1,961,802
Oral Surgery	13,840,547	17,385,575	14,567,698	13,685,862	17,237,013	14,474,981	154,685	148,562	92,717
Chiropractic	21,653,208	23,362,659	21,382,086	21,509,211	23,235,694	21,265,760	143,997	126,965	116,326
Optometry	9,141,383	9,972,653	7,513,906	8,935,206	9,770,793	5,521,695	206,177	201,860	1,992,211
Podiatry	2,938,545	3,122,492	3,031,785	2,928,739	3,112,791	3,025,215	9,806	9,701	6,570
Physical Therapy	15,019,140	18,066,798	17,164,644	14,990,409	18,039,850	17,140,644	28,731	26,948	24,000
TOTAL	$615,777,690	$674,025,408	$684,397,040	$612,803,229	$671,628,107	$680,203,414	$2,974,461	$2,397,301	$4,193,626

* The amount paid to medical practitioners includes payments, as indicated for each year ended March 31, for medical services to Provincial and Federal Departments and Agencies in respect of doctors on salary, sessional and contract arrangements. The amount paid also includes sessional payments to groups of medical practitioners on a contract basis:

1986 $3,290,931
1987 $3,422,992
1988 $3,110,684

NOTES: A. Included are payments for Basic Health Services provided in and outside of Alberta.

B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

TOTAL AND AVERAGE GROSS PAYMENTS TO PRACTITIONERS

TABLE 11

For the years ended March 31

	Number of Practitioners			Percentage Change		Total Paid			Percentage Change		Average Payments			Percentage Change	
	1986	1987	1988	1987/1986	1988/1987	1986	1987	1988	1987/1986	1988/1987	1986	1987	1988	1987/1986	1988/1987
Medical	3,554	3,676	3,829	3.43%	4.16%	$540,036,184	$588,938,394	$609,324,574	9.06%	3.46%	$151,952	$160,212	$159,134	5.44%	– 0.67%
Oral Surgery	958	1,045	1,075	9.08%	2.87%	13,815,622	17,359,370	14,547,380	25.65%	– 16.20%	14,421	16,612	13,532	15.19%	– 18.54%
Chiropractic	323	332	332	2.79%	—	21,493,681	23,218,105	21,261,271	8.02%	– 8.43%	66,544	69,934	64,040	5.09%	– 8.43%
Optometry	213	214	220	0.47%	2.80%	9,101,274	9,933,630	7,476,314	9.15%	– 24.74%	42,729	46,419	33,983	8.64%	– 26.79%
Podiatry	18	21	21	16.67%	—	2,925,651	3,109,699	3,023,503	6.29%	– 2.77%	162,536	148,081	143,976	– 8.89%	– 2.77%
Physical Therapy	355	406	423	14.37%	4.19%	14,940,812	17,986,087	17,094,412	20.38%	– 4.96%	42,087	44,301	40,412	5.26%	– 8.78%
TOTAL	5,421	5,694	5,900	5.04%	3.62%	$602,313,224	$660,545,285	$672,727,454	9.67%	1.84%					

NOTES: A. Payments include only fee-for-service payments to practitioners in Alberta for Basic Health Services.

B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

DISTRIBUTION OF GROSS PAYMENTS BY PAYMENT RANGE TO ALL PRACTITIONERS

TABLE 12

For the years ended March 31

$ Range	Total			Medical			Oral Surgery			Chiropractic			Optometry			Podiatry			Physical Therapy		
	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988
Less than 10,000	1,099	1,098	1,220	363	350	374	624	631	717	31	24	26	15	11	23	1	2	2	65	80	78
10,000 – 19,999	389	429	461	146	155	185	168	187	183	13	21	20	18	25	29				44	41	44
20,000 – 39,999	523	563	584	226	231	227	97	139	109	50	53	51	74	59	96		1	1	76	80	100
40,000 – 59,999	439	481	495	207	233	235	27	41	24	61	56	71	69	66	53		1	1	75	84	111
60,000 – 79,999	391	383	385	233	210	244	14	12	13	64	57	59	23	34	14	1	2		56	68	55
80,000 – 99,999	380	363	376	295	258	289	10	11	9	41	50	53	8	10	2	2	2	3	24	32	20
100,000 – 119,999	360	350	343	316	299	306	4	5	5	32	31	24	3	4	1		2	1	5	9	6
120,000 – 139,999	369	373	370	342	348	344	4	4	3	17	16	17	1	2		2		1	3	3	5
140,000 – 159,999	318	353	354	300	329	342	2	2	2	9	15	6		2	1	3		2	4	5	1
160,000 – 179,999	273	268	305	266	257	296		2	1	2	5	3	1		1	1	1	2	3	3	2
180,000 – 199,999	212	252	225	209	248	220	1	1	3	1	1					1	2	2			
200,000 – 299,999	504	599	581	491	581	569	4	6	5	1	2	1	1	1		7	8	5		1	1
300,000 – 399,999	104	119	132	102	116	130	2	3	1									1			
400,000 – 499,999	23	23	22	23	23	22															
500,000 – 599,999	13	12	18	12	11	17	1	1				1									
600,000 – 699,999	4	9	5	3	8	5				1	1										
700,000 – 799,999	3	2	6	3	2	6															
800,000 and Over	17	17	18	17	17	18															
TOTAL	5,421	5,694	5,900	3,554	3,676	3,829	958	1,045	1,075	323	332	332	213	214	220	18	21	21	355	406	423

NOTES: A. Payments include only fee-for-service payments to practitioners in Alberta for Basic Health Services.

B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

AVERAGE AND MEDIAN GROSS PAYMENTS BY SPECIALTY TO MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

TABLE 13

For the years ended March 31

	Number of Practitioners			Average Payments			Percentage Change		Median Payments			Percentage Change	
	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988	1987/1986	1988/1987	1986	1987	1988	1987/1986	1988/1987
TOTAL	3,554	3,676	3,829	$ 151,952	$ 160,212	$ 159,134	5.44%	−0.67%	$119,610	$125,592	$123,096	5.00%	−1.99%
General Practitioners	2,040	2,074	2,149	115,403	122,768	120,474	6.38%	−1.87%	115,515	123,591	122,238	6.99%	−1.09%
Total Specialists	1,514	1,602	1,680	201,198	208,687	208,587	3.72%	−0.05%	128,148	129,438	125,897	1.01%	−2.74%
Laboratory Specialists	179	198	237*	629,195	649,063	575,219*	3.16%	−11.38%*	69,394	65,795	42,495*	−5.19%	−35.41%*
Other Specialists	1,335	1,404	1,443	143,811	146,583	148,371	1.93%	1.22%	131,893	133,298	136,217	1.07%	2.19%
SPECIALISTS BY SPECIALTY													
Anaesthetists	166	173	174	$ 108,874	$ 112,722	$ 121,368	3.53%	7.67%	$123,522	$126,717	$128,837	2.59%	1.67%
Dermatologists	22	22	23	328,560	339,554	334,936	3.35%	−1.36%	335,858	327,022	331,913	−2.63%	1.50%
General Surgeons	155'	156'	160	165,010'	168,101'	165,862	1.87%'	−1.33%	162,869'	165,134'	167,421	1.39%'	1.38%
Urologists	35	35	36	186,992	194,409	187,672	3.97%	−3.47%	184,706	197,380	197,180	6.86%	−0.10%
Internists	286	304	317	126,614	126,781	126,179	0.13%	−0.47%	104,608	106,746	103,141	2.04%	−3.38%
Neurologists	28	29	31	108,846	120,323	114,115	10.54%	−5.16%	103,734	100,049	85,725	−3.55%	−14.32%
Neurological Surgeons	14	15	14	173,804	161,384	179,731	−7.15%	11.37%	191,778	160,782	156,658	−16.16%	−2.56%
Obstetricians-Gynaecologists	125	125	121	168,848	178,358	200,153	5.63%	12.22%	165,828	167,804	190,318	1.19%	13.42%
Ophthalmologists	62	66	70	238,305	251,807	248,818	5.67%	−1.19%	201,729	222,429	199,081	10.26%	−10.50%
Rhino-Otolaryngologists	31	31	31	237,799	243,367	250,579	2.34%	2.96%	257,574	263,643	255,644	2.36%	−3.03%
Orthopaedic Surgeons	74	75	81	167,170	170,883	166,282	2.22%	−2.69%	172,720	177,545	171,981	2.79%	−3.13%
Paediatricians	143	150	147	97,660	99,937	100,185	2.33%	0.25%	78,004	70,656	81,606	−9.42%	15.50%
Psychiatrists	137	142	149	94,483	103,850	103,729	9.91%	−0.12%	93,049	103,367	101,987	11.09%	−1.34%
Plastic Surgeons	29	28	30	204,521	199,597	171,587	−2.41%	−14.03%	187,473	202,672	171,841	8.11%	−15.21%
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	10	12	12	56,156	72,442	77,200	29.00%	6.57%	59,526	65,035	81,083	9.25%	24.68%
Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgeons*	18'	18'	19	213,736'	206,800'	202,352	−3.25%'	−2.15%	244,006'	230,506'	214,564	5.53%'	−6.92%
Emergency Medicine	N.A.	23	28	N.A.	93,908	105,628	N.A.	12.48%	N.A.	107,118	112,596	N.A.	5.11%
Laboratory/Pathologists**	38	42	72*	2,159,520	2,220,745	1,349,400*	2.84%	−39.24%*	128,353	67,130	15,694*	−47.70%	−76.62%*
Laboratory/Radiologists**	133	149	159*	225,454	232,935	243,263*	3.32%	4.43%*	65,442	60,574	54,921*	−7.44%	−9.33%*
Laboratory/Others**	8	7	6	72,339	76,544	81,872	5.81%	6.96%	75,777	81,858	86,228	8.02%	5.34%

* New specialty.

** Payment information for all physicians other than laboratory specialists refers to billings for a particular physician only. With respect to laboratory physicians, billings for more than one physician may be included under one practitioner or billing number.

* Not comparable to data for previous years (see note 17 in "Claims-Payment" section of "Explanatory Comments").

' Revised.

N.A.: Not Applicable.

NOTES: A. Payments include only fee-for-service payments to practitioners in Alberta.

B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

DISTRIBUTION OF GROSS PAYMENTS BY SPECIALTY TO MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

TABLE 14

For the year ended March 31, 1988

$ Range	All Practitioners		General Practitioners		All Specialists		Anaesthetists		Dermatologists		General Surgeons	
	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners
Less than 10,000	$ 1,186,042	374	$ 621,704	210	$ 564,338	164	$ 16,872	9	$ 3,796	1	$ 33,686	11
10,000 – 19,999	2,794,777	185	1,456,506	95	1,338,271	90	55,603	4	16,374	1	82,300	6
20,000 – 39,999	6,672,198	227	3,446,187	118	3,226,011	109	172,372	6			188,414	6
40,000 – 59,999	11,602,857	235	5,833,760	118	5,769,097	117	483,210	10			528,131	10
60,000 – 79,999	17,159,418	244	10 069,845	143	7,089,575	101	968,638	14			418,117	6
80,000 – 99,999	25,964,753	289	16,065,274	179	9,899,479	110	1,014,163	11			620,296	7
100,000 – 119,999	33,809,686	306	20,600,794	186	13,208,892	120	1,814,264	16			1,442,947	13
120,000 – 139,999	44,839,362	344	29,585,997	227	15,253,365	117	4,530,431	35			898,784	7
140,000 – 159,999	51,438,580	342	33,687,921	224	17,750,659	118	4,181,387	28			1,506,644	10
160,000 – 179,999	50,158,591	296	33,079,649	195	17,078,942	101	3,035,828	18	161,961	1	1,867,111	11
180,000 – 199,999	41,636,433	220	24,579,839	130	17,056,594	90	2,042,833	11			1,902,107	10
200,000 – 299,999	135,725,887	569	67,712,705	289	68,013,182	280	2,317,413	11	1,307,776	5	11,384,101	47
300,000 – 399,999	44,199,599	130	11,164,451	33	33,035,148	97			3,538,512	10	4,801,136	14
400,000 – 499,999	9,759,246	22	441,690	1	9,317,556	21	484,968	1	815,644	2	864,209	2
500,000 – 599,999	9,340,793	17	551,536	1	8,789,257	16			1,093,761	2		
600,000 – 699,999	3,236,431	5			3,236,431	5						
700,000 – 799,999	4,442,426	6			4,442,426	6			765,703	1		
800,000 and Over	115,357,496	18			115,357,496	18						
TOTAL	$609,324,575	3,829	$258,897,856	2,149	$350,426,719	1,680	$21,117,982	174	$7,703,527	23	$26,537,983	160

TABLE 14 Continued

Range	Urologists		Internists		Neurologists		Neurological Surgeons		Obstetricians-Gynaecologists		Ophthalmologists	
	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners
Less than 10,000	$ 2,141	2	$ 81,243	25	$ 7,372	3	$ 9,793	1	$ 20,545	7	$ 13,431	4
10,000 – 19,999	28,990	2	190,859	14							24,879	2
20,000 – 39,999			995,965	33	111,950	4			223,429	7		
40,000 – 59,999			1,637,428	33	145,559	3			301,295	6	51,811	1
60,000 – 79,999	78,864	1	1,744,863	25	201,639	3			287,233	4	270,192	4
80,000 – 99,999	179,048	2	2,269,163	25	338,667	4			711,749	8	527,463	6
100,000 – 119,999	105,771	1	2,975,831	27	229,875	2	334,078	3	316,006	3	220,275	2
120,000 – 139,999	139,527	1	1,408,076	11	402,871	3			1,199,755	9	800,283	6
140,000 – 159,999	467,757	3	2,246,805	15			598,225	4	605,858	4	461,524	3
160,000 – 179,999	170,995	1	2,356,770	14	504,543	3			1,351,693	8	506,555	3
180,000 – 199,999	939,977	5	3,788,421	20	181,528	1	182,334	1	1,517,099	8	762,092	4
200,000 – 299,999	3,228,610	14	13,879,679	57	677,941	3	744,782	3	8,000,424	33	3,211,259	13
300,000 – 399,999	1,012,344	3	4,973,946	15	735,610	2	647,019	2	5,493,161	16	3,819,890	11
400,000 – 499,999	402,155	1	408,118	1					1,839,285	4	2,219,858	5
500,000 – 599,999			1,041,569	2					1,639,932	3	1,705,654	3
600,000 – 699,999											1,292,390	2
700,000 – 799,999									711,071	1		
800,000 and Over											1,529,713	1
TOTAL	$6,756,179	36	$39,998,736	317	$3,537,555	31	$2,516,231	14	$24,218,535	121	$17,417,269	70

TABLE 14 Continued

$ Range	Rhino-Otolaryngologists		Orthopaedic Surgeons		Paediatricians		Psychiatrists		Plastic Surgeons		Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	
	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners
Less than 10,000	$		$ 25,728	6	$ 104,973	20	$ 47,710	11	$ 3,765	1	$	
10,000 – 19,999			19,584	1	206,347	13	207,690	13			12,571	1
20,000 – 39,999	26,270	1	82,340	3	428,368	14	264,350	10	22,839	1	51,850	2
40,000 – 59,999	51,424	1	116,729	2	884,701	18	658,498	13	81,314	2		
60,000 – 79,999			143,720	2	569,602	8	852,039	12			194,688	3
80,000 – 99,999			168,659	2	968,268	11	1,295,870	14	248,062	3	381,748	4
100,000 – 119,999	214,412	2	877,990	8	866,445	8	1,410,785	13	103,628	1	112,650	1
120,000 – 139,999			676,361	5	1,283,776	10	2,506,087	19	264,376	2		
140,000 – 159,999	158,447	1	769,663	5	1,351,694	9	2,262,830	15	464,651	3		
160,000 – 179,999	350,128	2	1,701,400	10	2,181,871	13	1,016,062	6	686,770	4	172,890	1
180,000 – 199,999	396,779	2	1,719,708	9	578,124	3	2,264,708	12	384,542	2		
200,000 – 299,999	3,849,795	15	5,538,189	23	3,562,718	15	2,345,317	10	2,233,669	9		
300,000 – 399,999	1,249,581	4	1,628,769	5	1,260,294	4	323,631	1	654,005	2		
400,000 – 499,999	424,501	1			480,029	1						
500,000 – 599,999	1,046,623	2										
600,000 – 699,999												
700,000 – 799,999												
800,000 and Over												
TOTAL	$7,767,960	31	$13,468,840	81	$14,727,210	147	$15,455,577	149	$5,147,621	30	$926,397	12

$ Range	Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeons		Emergency Medicine		Laboratory/Pathologists*		Laboratory/Radiologists*		Laboratory/Others*	
	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners	Payments	Number of Practitioners
Less than 10,000	$		$		$ 80,403	27	$ 112,880	36	$	
10,000 – 19,999	18,472	1	14,510	1	239,528	16	220,564	15		
20,000 – 39,999	29,544	1			115,044	4	474,719	16	38,557	1
40,000 – 59,999	49,636	1	94,593	2	86,468	2	598,300	13		
60,000 – 79,999	154,455	2	208,179	3	144,080	2	697,614	10	155,652	2
80,000 – 99,999			80,300	1	90,257	1	815,777	9	189,989	2
100,000 – 119,999			1,102,841	10	103,327	1	870,731	8	107,036	1
120,000 – 139,999			879,423	7			263,615	2		
140,000 – 159,999	289,977	2	577,734	4	306,779	2	1,500,684	10		
160,000 – 179,999	169,504	1					844,861	5		
180,000 – 199,999	198,511	1			197,831	1				
200,000 – 299,999	1,874,092	7			760,252	3	3,097,165	12		
300,000 – 399,999	1,060,499	3					1,836,751	5		
400,000 – 499,999							1,378,789	3		
500,000 – 599,999					563,940	1	1,697,778	3		
600,000 – 699,999					692,827	1	1,251,214	2		
700,000 – 799,999							2,965,652	4		
800,000 and Over					93,776,080	11	20,051,703	6		
TOTAL	$3,844,690	19	$2,957,580	28	$97,156,816	72	$38,678,797	159	$491,234	6

* Payment information for all physicians other than laboratory specialists refers to billings for a particular physican only. With respect to laboratory physicians, billings for more than one physician may be included under one practitioner or billing number.

NOTES: A. Payments include only fee-for-service payments to practitioners in Alberta.

B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

TABLE 15

DISTRIBUTION OF GROSS AVERAGE PAYMENTS TO MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS
ACCORDING TO GROUP OF SPECIALTIES
BY DOLLAR RANGE AND ALBERTA PRACTICE YEAR
For the year ended March 31, 1988

GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

Years in Alberta / $ Range	Less Than 1		1 - 5		6 - 10		11 - 20		21 and Over		Total	
	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments
Less than 10,000	36	$ 3,360	96	$ 2,816	13	$ 3,784	23	$ 2,628	42	$ 2,876	210	$ 2,960
10,000 – 19,999	20	14,775	40	15,306	10	14,753	9	16,693	16	15,683	95	15,331
20,000 – 39,999	24	28,400	44	28,516	14	29,974	16	30,380	20	30,209	118	29,205
40,000 – 59,999	17	49,325	39	47,874	16	50,995	26	51,128	20	49,144	118	49,439
60,000 – 79,999	19	68,837	31	71,163	26	70,772	28	70,321	39	70,431	143	70,418
80,000 – 99,999	19	86,890	50	89,144	27	90,989	47	91,369	36	89,059	179	89,750
100,000 – 119,999	6	106,506	59	110,496	39	111,486	54	109,988	28	112,686	186	110,757
120,000 – 139,999	7	126,531	72	131,319	44	130,762	66	129,203	38	130,642	227	130,335
140,000 – 159,999	1	150,089	64	149,524	57	150,028	60	151,496	42	150,641	224	150,392
160,000 – 179,999			46	170,271	63	169,777	65	169,349	21	168,739	195	169,639
180,000 – 199,999			24	188,639	28	188,941	58	190,460	20	185,774	130	189,076
200,000 – 299,999			73	231,272	70	232,809	117	235,868	29	239,178	289	234,298
300,000 – 399,999			8	337,920	10	326,142	11	345,562	4	349,622	33	338,317
400,000 – 499,999					1	441,690					1	441,690
500,000 – 599,999							1	551,536			1	551,536
600,000 – 699,999												
700,000 – 799,999												
800,000 and Over												
TOTAL	149	$ 44,096	646	$105,507	418	$144,421	581	$147,762	355	$106,907	2,149	$120,474

MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

TABLE 15 Continued

Years in Alberta / $ Range	Less Than 1		1 - 5		6 - 10		11 - 20		21 and Over		Total	
	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments
Less than 10,000	5	$ 4,813	29	$ 2,847	10	$ 4,854	12	$ 5,240	13	$ 3,378	69	$ 3,797
10,000 – 19,999	10	13,895	14	16,316	5	16,131	9	14,347	9	14,089	47	14,978
20,000 – 39,999	7	25,996	26	30,130	14	28,640	13	33,321	9	25,039	69	29,346
40,000 – 59,999	2	46,718	25	49,389	19	46,531	18	48,433	15	54,662	79	48,749
60,000 – 79,999	4	68,493	23	69,389	15	69,913	13	70,353	13	69,715	68	69,698
80,000 – 99,999	4	88,043	13	92,519	16	90,064	16	91,536	21	89,889	70	90,688
100,000 – 119,999	2	113,244	25	110,547	14	111,118	14	108,913	22	111,005	77	110,554
120,000 – 139,999			19	128,786	19	132,366	24	130,262	23	127,064	85	129,537
140,000 – 159,999			14	149,240	17	151,900	23	149,050	17	148,272	71	149,584
160,000 – 179,999	1	163,310	20	169,459	9	168,187	10	168,623	16	167,345	56	168,392
180,000 – 199,999			10	187,610	17	186,857	13	191,326	7	187,958	47	188,417
200,000 – 299,999			15	236,376	29	242,811	32	241,674	25	230,804	101	238,523
300,000 – 399,999			5	352,033	9	339,641	11	329,715	7	341,170	32	338,500
400,000 – 499,999					1	413,301	3	431,810	1	480,029	5	437,752
500,000 – 599,999			1	530,327	1	505,073	1	563,434	1	536,495	4	533,832
600,000 – 699,999												
700,000 – 799,999							1	765,704			1	765,704
800,000 and Over												
TOTAL	35	$ 41,553	239	$ 98,449	195	$134,686	213	$141,380	199	$125,946	881	$120,800

SURGICAL SPECIALISTS

TABLE 15 Continued

Years in Alberta / $ Range	Less Than 1		1 - 5		6 - 10		11 - 20		21 and Over		Total	
	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments	Number of Physicians	Average Payments
Less than 10,000	5	$ 2,544	8	$ 5,601	3	$ 1,535	1	$ 3,273	15	$ 2,912	32	$ 3,409
10,000 – 19,999			3	14,393	1	15,421	2	16,973	6	13,601	12	14,512
20,000 – 39,999	3	30,491	4	28,246			3	35,172	9	29,207	19	30,149
40,000 – 59,999			4	47,935	5	52,000	3	45,959	11	53,702	23	51,319
60,000 – 79,999	1	62,420	3	65,950	2	74,062	2	72,819	11	72,595	19	71,188
80,000 – 99,999	1	81,941	4	85,323	3	83,810	8	90,014	12	88,376	28	87,688
100,000 – 119,999			10	106,078			6	112,277	15	110,407	33	109,549
120,000 – 139,999			3	134,811	2	133,639	8	132,725	17	132,093	30	132,636
140,000 – 159,999	1	157,164	6	150,605	4	152,440	10	153,629	14	151,136	35	152,078
160,000 – 179,999			6	167,453	2	166,282	15	170,242	17	171,367	40	170,104
180,000 – 199,999	1	188,360	3	188,883	6	189,047	15	191,587	17	190,585	42	190,549
200,000 – 299,999			16	243,989	29	245,916	75	245,147	44	241,896	164	244,298
300,000 – 399,999			4	365,769	17	336,512	24	344,821	15	327,126	60	339,439
400,000 – 499,999			1	442,324	2	435,138	5	440,787	5	446,695	13	442,308
500,000 – 599,999					2	552,632	4	545,064	2	553,346	8	549,026
600,000 – 699,999					1	660,716	1	631,674			2	646,195
700,000 – 799,999							1	711,071			1	711,071
800,000 and Over									1	1,529,713	1	1,529,713
TOTAL	12	$ 49,507	75	$142,417	79	$234,329	185	$229,507	211	$ 167,909	562	$ 191,593

NOTE: The number of years in Alberta is obtained from the "List of Members of the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta". The date of registration with the College of Physicians and Surgeons is used as the beginning date of practice in Alberta.

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICAL PAYMENTS BY TYPE OF SERVICE AND SPECIALTY

For the year ended March 31, 1988

TABLE 16

	Consul-tations	Visits			Major Surgery	Minor Surgery	Surgical Assists	Obstetrical Services	Anaes-thesia	Radiology Services	Pathology Services	Other Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services	Total
		Office	Hospital	Special									
All Practitioners	8.15%	40.56%	5.32%	1.49%	8.14%	1.67%	0.48%	3.37%	4.11%	4.40%	16.52%	5.79%	100.00%
General Practitioners	0.26	32.02	3.79	1.37	0.45	0.96	0.38	1.67	0.71	0.13	0.28	0.68	42.70
Anaesthetists	0.04	0.03	0.01		0.01				3.36			0.01	3.46
Dermatologists	0.43	0.48				0.06			0.03		0.10	0.16	1.26
General Surgeons	0.58	0.84	0.17	0.05	2.23	0.12	0.05	0.01		0.05		0.27	4.37
Urologists	0.26	0.07	0.02		0.48	0.02					0.01	0.25	1.11
Internists	2.85	1.15	0.76	0.03	0.13	0.09			0.01	0.01	0.07	1.51	6.61
Neurologists	0.44	0.03	0.03		0.02						0.03	0.03	0.58
Neurological Surgeons	0.07		0.02		0.31	0.01							0.41
Obstetricians-Gynaecologists	0.49	0.73	0.06	0.01	0.62	0.04	0.01	1.69			0.04	0.29	3.98
Ophthalmologists	0.43	0.96	0.01		1.16	0.04						0.26	2.86
Rhino-Otolaryngologists	0.38	0.16	0.01		0.39	0.14						0.19	1.27
Orthopaedic Surgeons	0.54	0.22	0.04	0.01	1.31	0.02	0.02					0.05	2.21
Paediatricians	0.80	1.15	0.31	0.02		0.01					0.01	0.12	2.42
Psychiatrists	0.33	2.18	0.01									0.01	2.53
Plastic Surgeons	0.13	0.10	0.01		0.50	0.06						0.04	0.84
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	0.07	0.02	0.04									0.02	0.15
Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgeons	0.04	0.01	0.01		0.50	0.02	0.02					0.03	0.63
Emergency Medicine		0.33	0.01		0.02	0.07						0.01	0.44
Laboratory	0.01	0.08	0.01		0.01	0.01				4.21	15.98	1.86	22.17

NOTES: A. Only fee-for-service payments made to practitioners in Alberta are included.

B. Special visits include routine home visits, emergency home visits and other home visits.

C. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

MEDICAL SERVICES AND PAYMENTS PER 1,000 INSURED PERSONS ACCORDING TO TYPE OF SERVICE BY AGE AND SEX

For the year ended March 31, 1988

TABLE 17

Type of Service \ Age Group		Under 1		1 - 4		5 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 and Older		All Age Groups	
		Services	Amounts Paid	Services	Amounts Paid	Services	Amounts Paid	Services	Amounts Paid	Services	Amounts Paid	Services	Amounts Paid	Services	Amounts Paid	Services	Amounts Paid
Consultations	M	732	$ 56,201	252	$ 14,886	176	$ 10,278	170	$ 9,251	226	$ 12,751	442	$ 26,573	800	$ 49,740	299	$ 17,785
	F	607	46,866	200	11,785	168	9,359	323	17,152	424	22,892	517	29,886	704	43,326	400	22,721
Office Visits	M	10,226	225,431	5,570	122,008	3,137	70,198	2,911	63,842	3,125	69,485	4,140	89,177	5,944	126,720	3,770	82,697
	F	9,485	208,933	5,178	113,549	3,241	71,276	5,625	125,132	5,770	130,748	5,777	127,326	6,139	131,363	5,429	120,640
Hospital Visits	M	3,705	78,006	494	11,453	181	4,687	237	5,707	253	5,214	836	13,797	4,147	61,895	705	12,605
	F	3,050	67,030	387	9,138	172	4,351	354	8,251	357	7,256	784	12,845	3,982	57,985	798	13,948
Special Visits	M	163	7,100	110	4,719	62	2,579	66	2,799	46	1,875	67	2,305	549	13,378	100	3,360
	F	149	6,515	96	4,080	57	2,364	60	2,515	53	2,079	72	2,465	833	19,144	138	4,119
Major Surgery	M	58	19,470	42	8,362	40	7,153	56	12,228	63	13,983	97	30,138	200	72,901	73	19,438
	F	28	10,438	28	5,165	33	5,592	57	11,762	106	19,603	150	30,505	181	61,238	95	20,932
Minor Surgery	M	251	10,457	149	7,028	119	4,930	158	5,973	110	4,358	99	4,969	104	5,558	122	5,197
	F	24	1,962	93	4,205	78	3,044	107	3,307	103	3,293	94	3,720	85	3,977	95	3,433
Surgical Assists	M	14	593	7	286	7	343	16	695	18	723	52	1,668	103	3,106	27	962
	F	5	199	4	156	5	248	25	1,301	43	1,990	54	1,859	74	2,410	36	1,484
Obstetrical Services	M																
	F							95	32,529	87	33,276	--	67			45	16,743
Anaesthesia	M	232	9,877	147	7,439	83	4,426	130	6,572	126	6,289	240	12,284	447	26,874	166	8,730
	F	152	5,875	98	5,108	72	3,846	198	11,530	244	13,870	238	12,808	304	20,881	204	11,778
Radiology Services	M	123	2,890	112	2,424	182	3,956	271	6,907	315	9,050	474	14,239	506	15,522	310	8,684
	F	130	3,278	91	1,943	165	3,690	254	7,535	371	13,659	688	26,430	636	21,354	376	13,046
Pathology Services	M	2,074	24,269	1,686	19,868	1,225	14,392	1,347	16,247	1,764	22,303	3,132	37,843	4,635	51,980	2,055	24,764
	F	1,948	22,218	1,911	21,171	1,608	18,463	5,907	65,054	6,018	70,321	5,372	66,227	5,805	67,893	4,871	56,711
Other Diagnostic & Therapeutic Services	M	260	5,318	568	3,101	943	3,839	606	4,731	631	7,656	973	22,059	1,488	38,050	786	10,899
	F	178	4,176	407	2,831	797	3,802	1,055	16,540	1,125	21,903	1,236	24,010	1,269	28,915	1,033	17,775
TOTAL	M	17,838	$439,612	9,137	$201,574	6,155	$126,781	5,968	$134,952	6,677	$153,687	10,552	$255,052	18,923	$465,724	8,413	$195,121
	F	15,756	377,490	8,493	179,131	6,396	126,035	14,060	302,608	14,701	340,890	14,982	338,148	20,012	458,486	13,520	303,330

--: Non-zero value.

NOTES: A. Included are medical services provided in and outside Alberta on a fee-for-service basis.

B. Special visits include routine home visits, emergency home visits and other home visits.

DISTRIBUTION OF DISCRETE MEDICAL PATIENTS BY AGE GROUP AND SEX

TABLE 18

For the year ended March 31, 1988

AGE GROUP	NUMBER OF PATIENTS		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Under 1	19,592	18,413	38,005
1 – 4	86,570	81,682	168,252
5 – 14	162,997	155,664	318,661
15 – 24	164,576	199,520	364,096
25 – 44	342,551	408,266	750,817
45 – 64	167,107	181,379	348,486
65 & Older	87,417	111,775	199,192
TOTAL	1,030,810	1,156,699	2,187,509

NOTES: A. "Number of Discrete Patients" contains the actual count of patients receiving at least one medical service on a date-of-payment basis.
B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

DISTRIBUTION OF DISCRETE PATIENTS BY PAYMENT RANGE FOR MEDICAL SERVICES

TABLE 19

For the year ended March 31, 1988

Payment Range	Number of Discrete Patients	% Distribution of Discrete Patients	% Distribution of Payments	% Distribution of Services
$ 0.01 – 10.00	6,634	0.30%	0.01%	0.03%
10.01 – 25.00	179,948	8.23%	0.60%	0.69%
25.01 – 50.00	223,935	10.24%	1.41%	1.55%
50.01 – 100.00	377,875	17.27%	4.55%	5.25%
100.01 – 200.00	497,465	22.74%	11.70%	13.85%
200.01 – 400.00	456,298	20.86%	20.92%	24.58%
400.01 – 600.00	187,230	8.56%	14.80%	15.95%
600.01 – 800.00	99,908	4.57%	11.16%	10.76%
800.01 – 1,000.00	57,553	2.63%	8.30%	7.32%
1,000.01 – 1,200.00	34,060	1.56%	6.02%	5.03%
1,200.01 – 1,400.00	20,649	0.94%	4.32%	3.53%
1,400.01 & Over	45,954	2.10%	16.21%	11.46%
TOTAL	2,187,509	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

NOTES: A. "Number of Discrete Patients" contains the actual count of patients receiving at least one medical service on a date-of-payment basis.
B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS
AND AVERAGE PAYMENTS BY REGION
For the year ended March 31, 1988

TABLE 20

Region	Grand Total		General Practitioners		Specialists	
	Number of Practitioners	Average Payments	Number of Practitioners	Average Payments	Number of Practitioners	Average Payments
I. Calgary	1,292	$164,406	647	$113,819	645	$215,149
II. Edmonton	1,688	161,963	893	109,830	795	220,522
III. Lethbridge	248	139,671	153	144,570	95	131,781
IV. Medicine Hat	82	185,189	47	143,070	35	241,748
V. Peace River	289	140,432	242	146,161	47	110,932
VI. Red Deer	230	143,957	167	137,510	63	161,048
TOTAL	3,829	$159,134	2,149	$120,474	1,680	$208,587

NOTE: See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

OUT-OF-PROVINCE BASIC HEALTH SERVICES
Fee-For-Service Payments and Number of Services
For the years ended March 31

TABLE 21

	Number of Services			Total Payments		
	1986	1987	1988	1986	1987	1988
Medical	342,238	332,179	299,147	$ 9,857,752	$ 9,753,845	$8,301,663
Oral Surgery	122	138	126	24,925	26,205	20,318
Chiropractic	13,882	12,254	10,561	159,527	144,554	120,815
Optometry	1,710	1,595	1,442	40,109	39,023	37,592
Podiatry	475	451	354	12,894	12,793	8,282
Physical Therapy	5,233	5,383	4,491	78,328	80,711	70,232
TOTAL	363,660	352,000	316,121	$10,173,535	$10,057,131	$8,558,902

OUT-OF-PROVINCE BASIC HEALTH SERVICES

TABLE 22

Distribution of Fee-For-Service Payments
And Number of Services by Province
For the year ended March 31, 1988

	Medical		Oral Surgery		Chiropractic		Optometry		Podiatry		Physical Therapy		Total	
	Number of Services	Payments	Number of Services	Payments	Number of Services	Payments	Number of Services	Payments	Number of Services	Payments	Number of Services	Payments	Number of Services	Payments
British Columbia	124,035	$3,375,011	80	$11,059	4,820	$ 54,799	349	$ 8,992	109	$ 2,105	3,129	$49,666	132,522	$3,501,632
Saskatchewan	60,241	1,331,976	2	93	883	9,917	773	20,574	1	16	56	855	61,956	1,363,431
Manitoba	628	12,291			348	3,943	34	834	2	27	33	588	1,045	17,683
Ontario	58,781	1,730,636	4	807	2,100	23,550	198	5,040	45	770	541	7,037	61,669	1,767,840
Quebec	5,139	139,401			77	903	20	445	2	184	47	856	5,285	141,789
New Brunswick	2,103	49,690			6	68	1	32	3	49	12	200	2,125	50,039
Nova Scotia	4,427	103,437	1	54	29	346	8	199	2	33	28	387	4,495	104,456
Prince Edward Island	881	15,954			2	21	1	25					884	16,000
Newfoundland	1,552	33,467			42	444	4	99			4	69	1,602	34,079
Northwest Territories and Yukon	3,115	85,135			29	324							3,144	85,459
United States	29,139	1,174,793	37	8,157	2,069	24,612	46	1,168	175	4,843	341	6,428	31,807	1,220,001
Rest of the World	9,106	249,872	2	148	156	1,888	8	184	15	255	300	4,146	9,587	256,493
TOTAL	299,147	$8,301,663	126	$20,318	10,561	$120,815	1,442	$37,592	354	$ 8,282	4,491	$70,232	316,121	$8,558,902

BASIC HEALTH SERVICES

TABLE 23

Fee-For-Service Payments and Services Per Registration and Patient
For the year ended March 31, 1988

	Total Payments	Number of Services	Cost Per Service	Number of Registrations	Cost Per Registration	Number of Services Per Registration	Number of Patients	Cost Per Patient	Number of Services Per Patient
Medical	$617,626,237	27,173,879	$ 22.73	1,064,832	$580.02	26	2,187,509	$282.34	12
Oral Surgery	14,567,698	71,020	205.12	39,997	364.22	2	41,592	350.25	2
Chiropractic	21,382,086	1,902,233	11.24	187,022	114.33	10	255,446	83.70	7
Optometry	7,513,906	280,188	26.82	209,935	35.79	1	273,982	27.42	1
Podiatry	3,031,785	133,586	22.70	39,519	76.72	3	42,259	71.74	3
Physical Therapy	17,164,644	3,493,132	4.91	111,032	154.59	31	119,042	144.19	29
All Benefits	$681,286,356	33,054,038	$ 20.61	1,079,472	$631.13	30	2,251,929	$302.53	15

NOTES: A. Included are Basic Health Services provided in and outside Alberta on a fee-for-service basis.

B. "Number of Registrations" and "Number of Patients" contain the actual count of discrete registrations and patients receiving services.

C. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

FEE-FOR-SERVICE MEDICAL PAYMENTS AND SERVICES PER REGISTRATION AND PATIENT

TABLE 24

For the years ended March 31, 1978 to 1988

Year	Total Payments	Number of Services	Cost Per Service	Number of Registrations	Cost Per Registration	Number of Services Per Registration †	Number of Patients	Cost Per Patient	Number of Services Per Patient †	Number of Registered Persons
1978	$173,996,750	14,597,722	$11.92	778,628	$223.64	19	1,647,493	$105.61	9	2,034,392
1979	197,169,182	15,616,628	12.63	818,235	240.95	19	1,708,975	115.37	9	2,100,646
1980	224,610,032	16,769,735	13.39	866,299	259.28	19	1,784,045	125.90	9	2,186,456
1981	271,030,697	18,079,618	14.99	928,883	291.78	19	1,879,463	144.21	10	2,306,428
1982	334,760,085	19,037,222	17.58	977,637	342.42	19	1,943,145	172.28	10	2,423,043
1983	430,989,454	21,270,872	20.26	1,017,777	423.46	21	2,041,349	211.13	10	2,464,253
1984	482,581,482	22,602,206	21.35	1,013,924	475.95	22	2,065,094	233.68	11	2,443,943
1985	503,998,319	23,682,625	21.28	1,012,039	498.00	23	2,075,464	242.84	11	2,399,690
1986	549,893,936	25,563,549	21.51	1,036,538	530.51	25	2,133,476	257.75	12	2,443,244
1987	598,692,239	26,707,826	22.42	1,055,955	566.97	25	2,174,[illegible]	275.38	12	2,462,017
1988	617,626,237	27,173,879	22.73	1,064,832	580.02	26	2,187,509	282.34	12	2,480,943
Percentage Change (%)	3.16	1.75	1.38	0.84	2.30	4.00	0.62	2.53	NIL	0.77
Annual Average Percentage Change (%)	13.51	6.41	6.67	3.19	10.00	3.19	2.88	10.33	2.92	2.00

† Rounded to the nearest whole number.

NOTES: A. Included are medical services provided in and outside Alberta on a fee-for-service basis.

B. "Number of Registrations" and "Number of Patients" contain the actual count of discrete registrations and patients receiving services.

C. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

BASIC HEALTH SERVICES AND EXTENDED HEALTH BENEFITS

TABLE 25

Number of Services and Percentage Changes
For the years ended March 31

	Number of Services				
	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
BASIC HEALTH SERVICES					
Medical	22,602,206	23,682,625	25,563,549	26,707,826	27,173,879
Percentage Change (%)	6.26%	4.78%	7.94%	4.48%	1.75%
Oral Surgery	37,399	50,921	67,602	75,023	71,020
Percentage Change (%)	8.77%	36.16%	32.76%	10.98%	−5.34%
Chiropractic	1,716,879	1,793,179	1,853,031	1,920,962	1,902,233
Percentage Change (%)	2.01%	4.44%	3.34%	3.67%	−0.97%
Optometry	342,105	372,896	384,981	402,606	280,188
Percentage Change (%)	3.15%	9.00%	3.24%	4.58%	−30.41%
Podiatry	115,619	126,303	126,967	130,243	133,586
Percentage Change (%)	10.83%	9.24%	0.53%	2.58%	2.57%
Physical Therapy	1,640,788	2,177,878	2,811,306	3,327,059	3,493,132
Percentage Change (%)	26.73%	32.73%	29.08%	18.35%	4.90%
EXTENDED HEALTH BENEFITS					
Dentists	342,042	393,259	482,146	515,551	588,315
Percentage Change (%)	3.14%	14.97%	22.60%	6.93%	14.11%
Denturists	40,206	42,772	58,517	72,180	81,593
Percentage Change (%)	6.96%	6.38%	36.81%	23.35%	13.04%
Optometrists	77,426	80,752	89,677	91,665	90,134
Percentage Change (%)	−0.05%	4.30%	11.05%	2.22%	−1.67%
Ophthalmic Dispensers	70,386	78,059	89,373	97,761	102,371
Percentage Change (%)	4.31%	10.90%	14.49%	9.39%	4.72%

NOTES: A. Included are services provided in and outside Alberta on a fee-for-service basis.

B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

EXTENDED HEALTH BENEFITS

TABLE 26

Fee-For-Service Payments and Services Per Registration and Patient

For the year ended March 31, 1988

	Total Payments	Number of Services	Cost Per Service	Number of Registrations	Cost Per Registration	Number of Services Per Registration	Number of Patients	Cost Per Patient	Number of Services Per Patient
Dentists	$22,905,478	588,315	$ 38.93	61,199	$374.28	10	75,610	$302.94	8
Denturists	7,873,767	81,593	96.50	20,046	392.78	4	21,811	361.00	4
Optometrists	2,558,575	90,134	28.39	21,247	120.42	4	23,561	108.59	4
Ophthalmic Dispensers	2,917,112	102,371	28.50	24,387	119.62	4	26,694	109.28	4
TOTAL	$36,254,932	862,413	$ 42.04	97,013	$373.71	9	122,862	$295.09	7

NOTES: A. Included are Extended Health Benefits provided in and outside Alberta on a fee-for-service basis.

B. "Number of Registrations" and "Number of Patients" contain the actual count of discrete registrations and patients receiving services.

C. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

EXTENDED HEALTH BENEFITS
SELECTED INDICATORS
For the years ended March 31

TABLE 27

	1986	1987	1988	Percentage Change 1987/1986	Percentage Change 1988/1987
Number of Registered Persons	232,096	240,050	247,827	3.43%	3.24%
Number of Practitioners	1,661	1,704	1,777	2.59%	4.28%
Dentists	1,121	1,154	1,201	2.94%	4.07%
Denturists	150	155	166	3.33%	7.10%
Optometrists	186	182	181	-2.15%	-0.55%
Ophthalmic Dispensers	204	213	229	4.41%	7.51%
Total Payments	$30,427,886	$32,876,269	$36,047,399	8.05%	9.65%
Dentists	18,758,332	20,207,393	22,751,230	7.72%	12.59%
Denturists	6,719,732	7,305,024	7,849,042	8.71%	7.45%
Optometrists	2,465,158	2,598,946	2,538,136	5.43%	-2.34%
Ophthalmic Dispensers	2,484,664	2,764,906	2,908,991	11.28%	5.21%
Total Payment Per 1,000 Persons	$ 131,100	$ 136,956	$ 145,454	4.47%	6.20%
Total Services	716,608	773,704	857,823	7.97%	10.87%
Dentists	479,835	512,958	584,819	6.90%	14.01%
Denturists	58,249	71,979	81,402	23.57%	13.09%
Optometrists	89,508	91,471	89,495	2.19%	-2.16%
Ophthalmic Dispensers	89,016	97,296	102,107	9.30%	4.94%
Total Number of Services Per 1,000 Persons	3,088	3,223	3,461	4.37%	7.38%
Average Payments	$ 18,319	$ 19,294	$ 20,286	5.32%	5.14%
Dentists	16,734	17,511	18,944	4.64%	8.18%
Denturists	44,798	47,129	47,283	5.20%	0.33%
Optometrists	13,254	14,280	14,023	7.74%	-1.80%
Ophthalmic Dispensers	12,180	12,981	12,703	6.58%	-2.14%
Discrete Patients	111,003	116,909	122,862	5.32%	5.09%
Discrete Patients Per Practitioner	67	69	69	2.99%	Nil

NOTES: A. Only fee-for-service items paid to practitioners in Alberta are included.

B. See notes in "Explanatory Comments".

EXTENDED HEALTH BENEFITS

TABLE 28

PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN THE SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

Effective Date \ Discipline	Dentists	Denturists	Optometrists	Ophthalmic Dispensers
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
July 1, 1974	5.56	5.88	Nil	Nil
January 1, 1976	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
January 1, 1977	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
January 1, 1978	6.47	6.47	6.47	6.47
January 1, 1979	7.00	36.00	7.00	7.00
July 1, 1979	Nil	8.00	Nil	Nil
January 1, 1980	10.50	7.00	8.50	8.50
January 1, 1981	11.60	11.00	38.30*	36.50*
January 1, 1982	18.70	12.00	13.00	13.00
January 1, 1983	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
April 1, 1986	4.65	4.65	4.65	4.65

* Effective January 1, 1981, the rate payable to optometrists and ophthalmic dispensers for new frames was increased from $7.30 to $30.00, while the rates payable for all other optometric benefits were increased by 11.00%. The overall increases in the Benefit Schedules for optometrists and ophthalmic dispensers were not the same due to differences in the utilization patterns of the two disciplines.

NOTE: The Extended Health Benefits Program was introduced on January 1, 1974.